



Arlington Disability Commission Minutes

Date: Wednesday, August 19, 2020

Time: 4:00 pm

Location: Conducted by Remote Participation

Attendees: Commissioners Cynthia DeAngelis (Chair), Darcy Devney, Karen Mathiasen, Paul Parravano, Michael Rademacher (Public Works Director), Kerrie Fallon, Paul Raia, Liza Molina, Maureen St. Hilaire (Vice Chair)

Guests: Jillian Harvey (DEI Coordinator), Grace Carpenter (Volunteer), Ellen Leigh (Volunteer/Advocate), Don Seltzer (resident)

Minutes

Meeting is called to order at 4:08 PM by DeAngelis

1. Call to Order- Read Ground Rules, Welcome (5 min)
 - a. DeAngelis reviewed executive order to conduct this meeting over Zoom, and introductions were made.
2. Approve July Minutes (5 min)
 - a. Parravano moved to approve minutes, Raia seconded, and all in favor of accepting minutes.
3. Check-Ins (15 min)
4. New Business (15 min)
 - a. [Lexington Hotel](#)
 - i. A letter of concerns related to the plans and ADA requirements was sent to ARB, hotel attorney pushed back, but since there was no vote group, commissioners had to attend as citizens and not as a voting entity.
 - ii. ARB meeting on 8/17/2020 that group members attended resulted in the hotel getting approved for the special permit and which will come with conditions, some specifically guaranteeing the ADA will be met, and an updated MoU.

- iii. Discussion around an action item that the group will provide a letter to Town Manager Chapdelaine and Town Counsel Heim about Commission's major concerns, and highlight the issues seen in regards to ADA so that they are aware and can advise the developer and architect to make the changes.
 - iv. Parravano motioned to have Chair DeAngelis and Devney craft and share letter with group, so that it can be voted on and sent to the Town Counsel, ARB, Select Board. Mathiasen seconded motion, all approved.
 - b. Discuss reviewing transition plan every few months
 - i. We can review the documents quarterly
 - ii. Start to break the plan apart to be more understandable and educate the different departments on how to use the plan
 - c. Discuss Town Website
- 5. Budget Update & Planning (15 min)
 - a. Harvey in touch with Joan Roman on Website redesign, do we want to use \$3,000 like last year to go towards Site Improvement, the tool used to assist with compliance and improvements, the full cost is \$7,000 but can we commit to something. A decision needs to be made by next meeting as the budget is being determined for the Site Improvement.
 - b. Commission discussed interest in attaining info for IHCD to do review of AHS plans and give feedback. Harvey will find out the cost for that consulting service if they provide it.
- 6. Committee Updates (20 min)
 - a. Raia- AHS Interior Building meeting 8/19/2020 went very well, complaints regarding inclusion have been considered. More details around bathrooms and locker location provided, in addition to the use of hearing impairment technology. Architect indicated that the commission's input is welcome, and she is welcome to our meetings.
 - b. Devney- no report.
 - c. Parravano- no report.
 - d. Rademacher- Sidewalk project continuing, will have additional updates next meeting.
 - e. Carpenter- The Disability Facebook page is now live, encourage others to like our page, we can use this to advertise our website and to build awareness among community.
- 7. DEI Updates (5 min)
 - a. Process of rescheduling last community conversation for series with Lt. Pedrini, more info to come on that, but will take place mid/late September.
 - b. Starting interviews next week for an admin position, hopefully in next month or so will have someone.

- c. Harvey will be submitting an application for the Municipal ADA Improvement Grant Program for the FY21 cycle. Since we already have the transition and implementation plan we can apply for up to \$250,000 to go towards a project that has been identified in our plan. Harvey met yesterday with Rademacher, Jenny Raitt Planning Director and Jim Feeney Facilities Director to discuss some more details about this opportunity and we would like to bring the discussion to the commission to help us in deciding what project to submit
 - i. Harvey will follow up with an email and information so that at next month's meeting we can discuss and vote, on the 3-4 options we will have. We choose those options because of the immense amount of foot traffic and reality of the work. We know the transition plan has highlighted an immense amount of changes but we can do what we can with budget
 - ii. Options are Town Hall, Jefferson Cutter House or Robbins Library.
- 8. Training Recap & Retreat Discussion (35 min)
 - a. 5 Key takeaways from Town Counsel's training- be prepared to discuss at the next meeting in September.
 - b. Key components for retreat
 - i. Pick a date
 - 1. Doodle poll will be shared by Harvey
 - ii. Set up working groups
 - 1. Transition plan
 - 2. Budget
 - 3. Liaisons/Partnerships to departments
 - 4. Volunteers/Membership
- 9. Priorities for next meeting's agenda (5 min)
 - a. 3-5 key components in retreat
 - b. Volunteers to plan retreat: Mathiasen and Parravano, with Harvey and DeAngelis.
 - c. Post planning time, people can join us, have a time to map out the retreat

Parravano motions to end the meeting, Mathiasen seconds, all approved Meeting adjourns at 6:06pm

Commission members not able to attend please email both Jillian Harvey, jharvey@town.arlington.ma.us and Cynthia DeAngelis prior to the scheduled meeting.

Anyone needing accessibility information or other assistance in order to attend this meeting should contact Jillian Harvey, jharvey@town.arlington.ma.us. This meeting is open to all interested individuals.